

**METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR MAKING INTEGRATED  
CIRCUIT PACKAGE INCLUDING OPENING  
EXPOSING PORTION OF THE IC**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A method for making an IC package preferably includes providing a mold including first and second mold portions, and wherein the first mold portion  
5 carries a mold protrusion defining an IC-contact surface with peripheral edges and a bleed-through retention channel positioned inwardly from the peripheral edges. The method also preferably includes closing the first and second mold portions around the  
10 IC and injecting encapsulating material into the mold to encapsulate the IC and make the IC package having an exposed portion of the IC adjacent the mold protrusion. Moreover, the bleed-through retention channel retains any encapsulating material bleeding beneath the  
15 peripheral edges of the IC contact surface, and prevents the encapsulating material from reaching further onto the exposed portion of the IC. The method may also include releasing the IC package with the exposed portion from the mold.